

Decline in Agro-Products Exports

† 2339. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH:

DR. D. MASTHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that export of agro-products from the country has continuously been declining in recent years;

(b) if not, the names of the agro-products exported from the country during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 alongwith their quantity and value; and

(c) the reasons for continuous decline in exports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) There has been a rise-and fall in the export of agro-products in the last three years.

(b) The agro-products exported from the country during 1997-98, 1998-99 1999-2000 were pulses, rice basmati, rice (non-basmati), wheat, other cereals, poultry & dairy products, floriculture products, tobacco unmanufactured, tobacco manufactured, spices, sugar mollases, cashew nut shell liquid, cashew, sesame nigersecd, groundnut, spirit & beverages, guar gum meal, oilmeals, castor oil, oilmeals, shellac, fruits & vegetable seeds, fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, processed vegetables, processed fruits & juices, miscellaneous processed items, meat & prcprations, cotton raw including waste, tea and coffee. The total value of agro-products including marine, tea, coffee, castor oil and cotton exported during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 were as under:—

| Year | Value (Rs. Crores) |
|--------------|--------------------|
| 1997-98 | 24626 |
| 1998-99 | 25387 |
| 1999-2000(P) | 23823 |

(P) -Provisional (Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta)

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Quantity-wise and product-wise details of exports are given in monthly/annual number of Foreign Trade Statistics of India published by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S), Calcutta, copies of which are available in Parliament Library.

(c) Does not arise.

Target fixed for export of various products

2340. SHRI NABAM REBIA:

PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any target has been fixed for the export of various products during 2000-2001;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any step has been taken to rapidly enhance the export of various products; and
- (d) the foreign exchange that we earned for the last five years because of the export of various products?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) (a) and (b) The target export growth rate for the year 2000-2001 has been fixed at 18% in \$ terms.

(c) A number of steps have been taken to further enhance the export growth which include reduction in transaction costs through decentralisation, simplification of procedures and various other measures as enumerated in the Exim Policy. Steps have also been taken to promote exports through multilateral and bilateral initiatives, identification of thrust sector and focus regions.